

**City of Bloomington
Telecommunications Council
Business Meeting – February 5th, 2013**

**Common Council Chambers
City Hall at the Showers Building
401 N. Morton St.**

I. Members Present: Thom Gillespie, Carl Zager, Duane Busick

Members Absent: Eric Ost

Note: There is one vacant position available on the Telecommunications Council.

II. Public Comment

Lennon Beasley

- 13 episodes of Recording Fun Show
- 1 Worship Celebration
- 3 Sentimental Journeys
- 17 new programs for the month of January

II. Approval of Minutes:

Carl motioned that the January minutes be accepted. Duane seconded the motion. Question was called, all were in favor.

IV. Reports and Announcements

1. Telecom Members: No reports

2. CATS – Martin O’Neil, CATS

End of the year report

- 39th year of CATS
- Completed construction of the new website
- 407 governmental meetings recorded
- Personal Thank you to crew of CATS for their hard work and dedication.

Duane Busick – The annual numbers show about a 25% decrease in patron programs. Is there some reason for that?

Martin O’Neil – We think it is the Lennon Beasley affect. His programs really skew the numbers across the board.

Carl Zager – Looking at the January report, we have an overwhelming amount of programs that offer a wealth of knowledge and information. CATS is funded entirely by the franchise fees. House Bill 1432 intends to remove franchise fees from the city permanently.

Martin O’Neil – January monthly report:

- CATS is in its 40th year.
- Covered governmental programming.

3. WTIU – No report

V. Information from or about Video Service Provider - No Report

VI. Old Business

Status of Project

Thom Gillespie - I have contacted one person but they were not the right person because they don’t deal with graduate students.

Duane Busick – I’m getting the same thing.

Thom Gillespie – We are just not on the right time line, with it being ½ way thru the spring semester.

Carl Zager – If we continue talking to people, then hopefully it will get us on the right calendar time down the road.

VII. New Business

Letter from Erik S. Möllberg

Carl Zager – Motioned that this letter be included as part of the minutes from tonight's meeting in its entirety. Duane Busick seconded the motion. Question was called for, all were in favor.

The main point of the letter is that franchise fee funding provides funding and there is fair compensation for the use of public right-of-way. They fund access facilities around the state where people can access the resources, like CATS. Mr. Möllberg makes the point that a cable company is very different from a utility even though the 2006 legislation lumped them into same category. He references the PEG access in Bloomington. He talks about "Kids Alive" a continuous production of CATS since 1975, which is the oldest production put on by kids in the world. Many "Kids Alive" alum have gone on to careers in TV, music, and web media. All programs are put on in partnership with the Children's department of the Monroe County Library, franchise fee's provided by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, and town government. If this community values the access it has to governmental meetings, city productions, etc then House Bill 1432 needs to be defeated. Your representatives need to be asked to vote against it. Monroe County has five representatives.

Thom Gillespie – Do you think we should contact Mr. Möllberg to offer our assistance in working with him?

Carl Zager – I was on the website for Indiana Association of City and Towns to see if there was any activity on their part, and it wasn't even mentioned. We need to get our IT department and administration on the case.

Thom Gillespie – Carl would you be willing to write an article for the HT.

Carl Zager – Yes.

VII. Adjournment

Thom Gillespie motioned for adjournment.

Next Regular Meeting

March 5th, 2013

Common Council Chambers in City Hall at the Showers Building
401 N. Morton St.

Submitted by:

Stephanie Jachim 2/19/2013